

Minutes
Human Services Commission
Wednesday, February 20, 2003
5:00 P.M.
Civic Center Senior Center
7375 E. Second St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Present: Chairwoman Fausel, Vice-chair Bachmann, Commissioners Bitenc, Bilsens, Broshar, Coudroglou and Resnick

Staff Present: Connie James, Mark Bethel, Kathy Breen, Donna Brower, Vicki French, Phil Hershkowitz, Beverly Johnson, Diane Kallal, Valerie Kime Trujillo, Rita Koppinger, John Larrivee, Sharon Light-Stephenson, Paul Ludwick, Jack Miller, Amy Pendleton, and Mary Kay Rieke

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fausel called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2003 MEETING

Commissioner Resnick moved for approval of the February 3, 2003 meeting minutes. Commissioner Broshar seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 5, 2003 MEETING

Commissioner Resnick moved for approval of the February 5, 2003 meeting minutes. Commissioner Bitenc seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

HOUSING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Barbara Williams, Chair of the City of Scottsdale Housing Board, presented the Housing Board's recommendations for the CDBG Housing activities and HOME funds.

Connie James recognized Commissioner Alik Coudroglou for sitting in on the Housing Board hearings.

The Housing Board approved and requested that the Human Services Commission approve the City of Scottsdale Citizen and Neighborhood Resources request in the amount of \$321,760.

The Housing Board approved and requested that the Human Services Commission approves Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) Home Improvements Emergency Repair Program in the amount of \$175,000.

The Housing Board approved and requested that the Human Services Commission approves Foundation for Senior Living (FSL) Home Improvements Housing Rehab Program in the amount of \$141,000.

Barbara Williams indicated that the Housing Board approves and requests that the HS Commission approve the request of Community Services of Arizona in the amount of \$266,240 for the first time buyer program.

A total of \$382,740 (\$282,740 in HOME funding and \$100,000 in federal funding) is to be expended in a timely fashion. Community Services of Arizona have not expended the total allocation from last year due to tight restraints. The Housing Board understands this agency knows the Scottsdale market and is willing to support funding. This funding is conditional in that they want this agency to "get busy" and expend funds. If this does not happen, the recommendation is -that funds not expended from last year be combined with this years' allocation.

Commissioner Coudroglou said that she was impressed with the presentations. She stated she is in the field and she knew little of the programs prior to the hearings. She indicated a need for more publicity. Williams expressed distress that there was only one HOME application this year and agrees there is a need for more encouragement of the program.

Chairwoman Fausel opened the floor for discussion. There were no additional questions for the allocation of these funds. This item will be formally approved and recommended at the March 13th Human Services Commission Meeting.

CDBG/HOME/GENERAL FUND/SCOTTSDALE CARES AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS APPLICATIONS APPLICATIONS-REVIEW DISCUSSION

Connie James, Human Services Director, explained the process that the Human Services staff undertook to determine their funding from the CDBG, General Fund, Scottsdale Cares and Endowment funds. Ms. James indicated that the Commission is encouraged to move numbers and priorities as they perceive them.

Mark Bethel, Community Services Manager, discussed the compiling of the scores on the application sheets. Based on the scorings, the agencies were ranked for funding in each category. Mr. Bethel provided a funding recommendation spreadsheet to each commissioner prior to the public presentations. Mr. Bethel said that Scottsdale's tentative allocation of CDBG funds was \$1,400,000. Mr. Bethel explained that the funding for CDBG was an increase of \$38,550 in public funding although in Scottsdale Cares there was a decrease of \$29,000 due to loss of McCormick Foundation match. The amount available for General Funds is \$7,000 less than last year. It is anticipated that Scottsdale will receive \$282,740 in HOME funds; however, that amount may increase. If so, it may be possible to fund CSA's application in an amount up to but not exceeding the \$400,000 requested. When staff looked at the funding available vs. requests they came up with the information provided in the chart. Mr. Bethel reviewed each of the agencies on the chart.

CDBG Information

Mr. Bethel provided an overview of the staff funding recommendations, providing additional information regarding agencies with changes to their prior year funding, with a \$210,00 amount funded.

Commissioner Broshar indicated that there was some confusion in his review of the information based on year-to-year differences. Mr. Bethel indicated that the requests are very different because they are in different funding categories. Commissioner Broshar was concerned that we were funding more than they had asked for. Commissioner Bitenc clarified that the allocation was for the amount requested only.

General Fund Information

Mr. Bethel provided an overview of staff funding recommendations, again providing pertinent information about the recommendations that the staff are making.

Commissioner Resnick asked if are we ignoring what commission requested and are basing the award simply on what they were awarded last year. Mr. Bethel indicated that recommendations are based on commission ranking and if there were no significant differences from staff and the commission rankings the funding available was a deciding factor.

Commissioner Coudroglou asked what is the philosophy was behind our funding process in the amount allocated. Mr. Bethel indicated that the agencies past performance and the perceived capacity and demonstrated ability to perform as indicated in the applications were key factors. The CDBG staff monitor

the funding for the CDBG applications. The HS staff are good indicators of the job the agencies are doing in the community.

Vice-chair Bachmann expressed a concern with the rankings and the percentage given in particular of the Chrysalis application and recommendations of staff. Mr. Bethel explained that this process exists for the commission to make final recommendations and that the staff caveat is that we come to a balance at the end of the day and encouraged this dialogue.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if we should review the Jewish Family Children's Services application as it related to Vice-chair Bachmann's comments with the Chrysalis recommended allocation. Connie James asked that Mr. Bethel complete initial review of recommendations and then begin conversation on the funding from commission the viewpoint.

Mr. Bethel opened the floor for commission recommendations and discussions. Ms. James mentioned that all managers and coordinators who made comments on recommendations are present for question and answers.

Chairwoman Fausel indicated that she would like to review the Jewish Children and Family Services (JFCS) and Chrysalis differences in applications versus ranking and staff recommendations per Vice-chair Bachmann's earlier comment. Commissioner Bitenc said the JFCS application was reflective of the overall social need in the community for a bilingual counselor at Paiute and Vista. Paiute Manager Mary Kay Rieke indicated that the program is very needed. The current staff member is bilingual and is very skilled. She provides critical and needed counseling in family relations, behavioral and mental health issues. She provides additional general counseling services. Rita Koppinger, HS Manager at Vista del Camino indicated that the cultural competency of the staff member currently provided by JFCS is critical. These services are not otherwise affordable by many of the clients to access. Clarification was asked about what exactly the issue was which was raised by Vice-chair Bachmann. Vice-chair Bachmann indicated that he wanted more information about Chrysalis rather than JFCS and wanted to see if there was a way to eliminate the \$2,000 decrease that is indicated by the staff in their recommendations. Mr. Bethel indicated that we would need to look at increases if we take from other areas. PREHAB is located outside of Scottsdale so that agency could be reasonably looked at for funding decreases.

Commissioner Resnick asked why Save the Family was being recommended for \$0 funding. Mr. Bethel indicated that this agency reduction is being recommended because of the decrease of \$29,000 in Scottsdale Cares funding and the fact that they can be funded through CDBG and have also been funded in prior years through the HOME program. The funding recommendation is not an indicator of the quality of their program. Ms. James added that typically staff looks at the amount funded from prior years. Although agencies may ask for large amounts they typically understand they may not be funded in total but rather at a level that is consistent with the prior years, particularly with reduced funding in some areas.

Commissioner Coudroglou asked if the agencies are aware of the qualifications for each funding program, and the application process. Mr. Bethel explained that there is an open house each year that provides information to applicants.

Vice-chair Bachmann asked if the five agencies that have a lower point value awarded each be reduced by \$1,000 and that money added to Chrysalis, which is more in alignment with their request and their ranking for a total award of \$15,000. JFCS and Experience Plus funding will remain as recommended by staff.

Commissioner Bitenc asked for clarification on how shelters are funded. Ms. James indicated that there is regional funding allocations as a regional effort.

Chairwoman Fausel recommended that Chrysalis be funded at \$14,000 by taking funding from four agencies. PREHAB, MesaCan, CASS, Community Legal are the four agencies to be reduced by \$1,000 each.

CDBG Funds Review Revisited:

Chairwoman Fausel asked if there was any conflict with the current recommendations for CDBG.

Commissioner Coudroglou asked what the philosophical basis/direction for allocations are. She indicated that she felt conflicted about the process. Commissioner Bitenc indicated that it was essentially amelioration. Commissioner Coudroglou would like to emphasize that she understands the dilemmas but doesn't want to award monies without solid philosophical foundation for the allocation.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if we need to make adjustments to CDBG allocations. The commission indicated unanimously that there was not a need for adjustment.

Scottsdale Cares Recommendations

Chairwoman Fausel asked for comments on Scottsdale Cares recommendations by staff.

Commissioner Bitenc asked for clarification on Save the Family. Ms. James and Mr. Bethel explained the change was relative to the increase in the CDBG funding – simply a change in the funding source.

Commissioner Bitenc asked about the Boys and Girls Club Cultural Connection program not being funded. Mr. Bethel explained that the program was new and that not funding the program was due to an overall reduction in funding rather than a reflection of the quality of the programs.

Vice-chair Bachmann asked about Assistance for Senior Living and why we were funding them for the first time. Donna Brower, Human Services Coordinator – Civic Center Senior Center indicated that the agency provides critical services and reduced the caseload of other agencies.

Commissioner Resnick asked that we try to find funding for the many agencies that are listed as recommended for zero funding. Chairwoman Fausel indicated that many of the agencies provided services that are duplicative. Vice-chair Bachmann agreed. Chairwoman Fausel asked if there were additional questions.

Commissioner Bitenc asked what PREHAB means. Connie James explained that the word PREHAB is a combination of several terms – prevention and rehabilitation at the center of their focus. PREHAB runs the majority of the social services in Mesa and that it is a very large agency. They are an agency with 360 staff members. The agency is very large and well organized. Mr. Bethel explained the PREHAB program at LaMesita that Scottsdale assists through this funding process.

Commissioner Bitenc recommended that the Scottsdale Cares funding remain as staff recommended.

Commissioner Bilsens joined the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Commission agreed without reservation to leave the funding as recommended. Official recommendations of the Human Services Commission of this allocation will take place at the March 13 Human Services Commission Meeting.

Jack Miller reviewed funding changes made during tonight's discussions.

Endowment Funds Recommendations

Human Services Planner John Larrivee reviewed Endowment Funding recommendations. Mr. Larrivee explained that there were three agencies that applied for funding. Staff is recommending that each agency be funded. Paiute Neighborhood Center and Vista del Camino will be funded \$1,000 each from the Community Endowment while the request from the Foundation for Senior Living Home Improvements, Inc. request will be funded from the Herbert R. Drinkwater Fund. All agencies will have to provide a performance review of how the money was spent. The FSL request will be awarded only as the work is completed.

Commissioner Resnick indicated that the commission accept as recommended and the commission concurred.

CDBG Non Public Services – Public Facilities

Mr. Bethel reviewed the staff funding recommendation for \$75,000 the Community Bridges/EVAC application for the transitional Redevelopment Center.

The commission agreed that the staff recommendations were acceptable at this time.

Other Information

Mr. Bethel reviewed anticipated funding for each allocation.

Commissioner Resnick questioned that the funding should be increased based on increased population in Census 2000. Mr. Bethel agreed that this in theory should happen and that this is the first year that they will use the 2000 Census for allocations but that the figures are not available in some areas at this time.

Commissioner Resnick asked why the Family Advocacy Center had not applied or be recommended for funding. Ms. James indicated that it was not funded since they didn't apply for several reasons based on qualifications.

Vice-chair Bachmann asked for additional information about the Transitional Redevelopment Center. Why are they being recommended for full funding? Mr. Bethel explained that like many shelters in the valley it is a regional approach. Other cities all contribute their 'fair share' to fund these projects that benefit our mutual communities. This is a CDBG eligible program. The City of Mesa will be the lead agency to monitor the expenditures. Vice-chair Bachmann asked if this is a one-time award. Mr. Bethel indicated that is was. Examples of other agencies/programs such as this were given.

Chairwoman Fausel indicated that the commission was in agreement that the funding was acceptable in all areas.

Commissioner Broshar asked if the process seemed to be improved from year to year and asked for Mr. Bethel's impression of the process this year. Mr. Bethel indicated the most important outcome is that regardless of the time and input given that all members of the commission feel comfortable that the allocations are appropriate based on the applications and presentations that they have heard. Ms. James indicated that the ranking sheets were very helpful for the staff to use as they formulated their allocation recommendations.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if other agencies could contact Ms. James for funding for Mesa United Way contacts she had and said that she had referred several agencies back to Ms. James. Ms. James indicated that this was acceptable.

STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Ms. James reminded commissioners of the next commission and council meetings: March 13 where formal commission recommendations will be approved, and April 14, where the City Council votes on commission recommendations. Ms. James indicated that agencies can come forward at the April 14 meeting to ask for changes to the allocations.

Chairwoman Fausel asked if knowledge of the entities – either lack thereof or too much information – can allow an item to be tabled on an agenda. Ms. James said that generally – yes- an item can be tabled . Tabling an item may delay the approval of some items at council and delay programs. Ms. Fausel clarified that if more information is needed the item can indeed be tabled and Ms. James said yes.

Ms. James informed the Commission that the Family Advocacy Center officially opened this week and thanked Commissioner Resnick for attending the opening. Ms. James has asked that the staff from the center prepare a presentation to the Commission. Ms. James asked for Commission input on preferences on site for this meeting on March 13 – at the center or at the Kiva. If we move from the Kiva we would be eliminating the televised option for the meeting.

Chairwoman Fausel asked that the meeting remain at Kiva so the opportunity for educating the public through television not be eliminated. Commissioner Resnick asked that the commission try to tour the center as a group prior to the March 13 meeting because he felt that touring the center prior to the presentation on the 13 is critical. The Commission agreed to work on getting together as a group. Ms. James will set up a tour during the first week of March.

Ms. James reminded the commission that there will be traffic and parking issues the day of the March 13 meeting due to the Arts Festival and advised that extra time and patience be allotted for this situation.

Vista del Camino Human Services Manager Rita Koppinger invited all members to attend the Yaqui Book Signing and Celebration on Saturday Feb 22nd at 4pm. There will be a dinner, dedication of a room, book presentation and dance following. Vista del Camino is located at 7700 Roosevelt Road. Ms. Fausel made an open call to the public for comments/questions/announcement or other business.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairwoman Fausel made an open call to the public for comments/questions/announcements or other business. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the commission, Chairwoman Fausel asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner ? moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner ? seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Breen/Amy Pendleton, Recording Secretaries.

Meets established criteria.

Connie James
Director, Human Services